

R E M A R K S

Careful review and examination of the subject application are noted and appreciated.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The rejection of claim 14 has been obviated by amendment and should be withdrawn.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

The rejection of claims 1, 3-4 and 7-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Wang (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0001977; hereinafter Wang) in view of Linzer (U.S. Pat. No. 6,463,102; hereinafter Linzer) has been obviated by amendment and should be withdrawn.

The rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Wang, in view of Linzer, and further in view of Dimitrova et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,469,749) has been obviated by amendment and should be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Wang, in view of Linzer, and further in view of Teicher et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,847,703) has been obviated by amendment and should be withdrawn.

Wang teaches an apparatus and a method for preventing automated detection of television commercials (Title). Linzer

teaches a digital video compressor with border processor (Title). Dimitrova teaches automatic signature-based spotting, learning and extracting of commercials and other video content (Title). Teicher teaches a browsing system method and apparatus for video motion pictures (Title).

In contrast, claim 1 of the present invention provides a method for processing a video signal. The method comprising the steps of (A) receiving the video signal comprising (i) a first segment having a series of frames each having a first region and a second region defining a first signature and (ii) a second segment having a series of frames each having a first region and a second region defining a second signature, (B) modifying each of the frames of the first segment from the first signature to a third signature, where the first segment comprises a non-commercial program and (C) modifying each of the frames of the second segment from the second signature to a fourth signature. Claims 11 and 13 provide similar limitations. The references, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest each of the claimed limitations.

In particular, Wang appears to be silent regarding modifying each of the frames of the first segment from the first signature to a third signature, where the first segment comprises a non-commercial program, as presently claimed. At best, Wang teaches that commercial transitions may be modified with the goal

that they are undetectable. Wang does not teach or suggest modifying each of the frames of the first segment comprising a non-commercial program, as presently claimed. Linzer does not cure the deficiencies of Wang. Therefore, the references, alone or in combination, do not teach each of the claimed limitations.

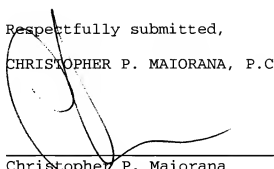
As such, the presently claimed invention is fully patentable over the cited references and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Accordingly, the present application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action by the Examiner is respectfully solicited.

The Examiner is respectfully invited to call the Applicant's representative between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET at 586-498-0670 should it be deemed beneficial to further advance prosecution of the application.

If any additional fees are due, please charge Deposit
Account No. 12-2252.

Respectfully submitted,
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c/o Lloyd Sadler
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